

IN THE CLAIMS:

30. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching tissue to a bone, the method comprising the steps of:

embedding a distal end of a stake in the bone such that a proximal portion of the stake protrudes from the bone;

impaling the tissue on a sharpened end of the proximal portion of the stake; and

attaching a cap to the stake between a proximal surface of the tissue and the sharpened end of the proximal portion thereof so as to overlies the cap on the tissue.

31. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 30 wherein the stake distal end is provided with a first set of screw threads, and embedding the distal end of the stake comprises screwing the distal end of the stake into the bone.

32. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 31 wherein the stake is provided with a pointed proximal end, and impaling the tissue on the proximal portion of the stake comprises pressing the tissue onto the stake pointed end such that the pointed end penetrates the tissue.

33. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 32 wherein the stake is provided with a second set of screw threads disposed proximally of the first set of screw threads, the cap is provided with an opening threadedly engageable with the second set of screw threads, and attaching the cap to the stake comprises screwing the cap onto the stake second set of threads.

34. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 33 wherein the cap is screwed onto the stake until a distal surface of the cap engages the tissue.

35. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 30 and comprising the further step of cutting away a proximal portion of the stake extending beyond the attached cap.

36. (New) A method for attaching tissue to a bone, the method comprising the steps of:

embedding a distal end of a stake in the bone such that a proximal portion of the stake protrudes from the bone;

impaling the tissue on the proximal portion of the stake;

attaching a cap to the stake so as to overlie the tissue;  
and

cutting away a proximal portion of the stake extending  
beyond the attached cap.

37. (New) A method for attaching tissue to a bone, the  
method comprising the steps of:

embedding a distal end of a stake in the bone such that a  
proximal portion of the stake protrudes from the bone;

impaling the tissue on a sharpened end of the proximal  
portion of the stake; and

attaching a cap to the stake between the sharpened end of  
the proximal portion thereof and a proximal surface of the tissue  
so as to overlie the tissue;

wherein the cap does not extend through the proximal surface  
of the tissue so as to position the stake and the tissue adjacent  
to one another.

38. (New) A method for attaching tissue to a bone, the  
method comprising the steps of:

embedding a distal end of a stake into the bone such that a  
proximal portion of the stake protrudes from the bone;

impaling the tissue on a sharpened end of the proximal portion of the stake; and

attaching a cap to the stake proximally of a proximal surface of the tissue so as to overlie the tissue;

wherein the cap does not extend through the proximal surface of the tissue so as to position the stake and the tissue adjacent to one another.